[*Translation*]

**Launching of Insat-2-A**

1255. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:
SHRI YASHWATRAO PATIL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the programme to launch INSAT-2-A in space has been postponed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the time by which the said satellite is proposed to be launched;

(d) whether the Government have yet to take assistance of other countries to launch such satellites in space; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to launch such satellites from the country itself in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) INSAT-2A is to be launched by ARIANE-4 Launch Vehicle along with a satellite belonging to EUTELSAT organisation in a dual launch configuration. Even though INSAT-2A is fully ready and tested, EUTELSAT is able to ready its satellite for launch only by June, 1992 and hence the three months delay. The launch date adjustments have to be made in order to find launch date suitable for both parties.

(c) INSAT-2A is now scheduled to be launched before the end of June, 1992.

(d) Yes, Sir. As of now, India's Geosynching commercially available launch vehicles from other countries.

(e) A development programme for Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) has been initiated by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). The GSLV is likely to be test flown in 1995-96 time-frame and after this successful development, satellites of INSAT-2 class could be launched from India itself.

[*English*]

**Porvision of drinking water facilities in Urban Areas**

1256. SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering a time bound programme to provide drinking water facilities to the entire urban population in the country;

(b) if so, whether any long term scheme has been prepared for the purpose; and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof and the estimated cost of the Project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Water Supply is a State subject. It is the responsibility of the State Government and urban local bodies to provide safe and adequate drinking water to the people in the urban areas. In the approach to the 8th Five Year Plan, 100% coverage of urban water supply has been recommended by the Working Group to the Planning Commission.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.